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resentation must be adopted for the elections to the legislative councils. Lord Morley has advocated a system of double registry, by which the sects would be entirely segregated in the choice of representatives. This scheme has not been favorably received by the authorities in India, and has therefore been abandoned. Just how the problem will be worked out is not yet known.

What the ultimate effect of these extensive reforms will be it is of course impossible now to say. Their immediate result has been to greatly diminish the tension under which the government of India has been carried on for some time. In the boldness and far-reaching character of their aims they certainly constitute a most significant turning-point in British Indian policy.

WALTER JAMES SHEPARD.

**Employer's Liability.** A bill compelling shipping companies to compensate seamen injured in the course of their employment was recently introduced in the parliament of the Australian commonwealth.

**Factory Legislation—India.** A bill to amend and consolidate the factory law of India was submitted to the viceroy's legislative council on July 30, 1909. The bill was introduced by the member of council for commerce and industry and embodies the principle of restricting the hours of adult men. The bill is intended to apply only to textile factories but power is reserved to extend its provisions to other industries in case of necessity.

Specifically the bill requires that the use of mechanical power in any textile factory shall not exceed twelve hours in any one day, and that no person shall be actually employed in any such factory before half-past five in the morning or after seven in the evening. However, these two restrictions do not apply to any factory for ginning cotton or for pressing cotton or jute. Further provision is made for exemption from the requirement of a twelve hour day in case of state necessities or other exceptional emergencies.

M. A. S.

**State Regulation of Fire Insurance Rates.** The unsatisfactory results of the anti-compact laws, by which many states have attempted to prevent rate agreements between fire insurance companies, have led to a movement for public regulation of fire insurance rates. The Kansas legislature has passed a bill (S. B. No. 538, approved March 5, 1909)